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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography includes 257 references to current issues in Japanese education contained in books, magazines, and Japanese periodicals. Among the topics included are bullying among juvenile delinquents, student exchange programs, Japanese educational problems, post-educational employment problems, school computer use, and juvenile crime. An index to the bibliography is included. (GEA)

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JAPANESE EDUCATION - AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CURRENT ISSUES (1986 - 1988)

Prepared by David Wardell
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JAPANESE EDUCATION - AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CURRENT ISSUES (1986 - 1988)

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A

Abbott, J. (1988). "Wakabayashi Maligned JET," Daily Yomiuri, 24 November, p. 7.

Abbott, a British AET, offers a strident defense of the Japan Exchange and Teaching program.

"Adults Worry Most About Bullying Among Juvenile Delinquents: Poll," Asahi Evening News, 19 December 1988, p. 3.

A public opinion poll conducted last July showed that most people (56.5%) believe bullying constitutes the most serious social problem posed by juveniles. Apart from bullying, the pollees cited as notable juvenile delinquencies late-night entertainments (36.9%), running away from home or staying out overnight (32.6%), and violence in school (32%). One reason given for these problems was lack of trust between teachers and students. According to a recent report by the National Police Agency, as many as 190,000 juveniles committed violations of penal codes in 1987.

"Aichi School Kids Reach Out to Foreigners Via Hiragana Papers," Asahi Evening News, 29 November 1988, p. 6.

Elementary school children in Ichinomiya City have started issuing community papers in hiragana for foreign residents in Nagoya and its vicinity.

"All They Need Is a Place to Sleep," Asahi Evening News, 17 December 1988, p. 6.

In Osaka, an agreement has been reached between school authorities and 12 corporations for foreign students to stay in company dormitories.

Amano, H. (1987). "Role of Teaching English in University Education," Mainichi Daily News, 29 November.

Haruo Amano, a professor at Fukuoka Institute of Technology, believes English instruction is essential at the university level because skill in this area is requisite for employment. He furthermore acknowledges that language instruction will enable university graduates to appreciate other people and the world in general. "The goal of university education should be to bring up 'whole persons in a broken world.'" Amano lists changes that would improve foreign language learning in Japan--more instructional hours, fewer students in the class, development of more interesting learning materials, making language learning an across-the-curriculum activity, and more attention to teacher training.

Amano, H. (1988). "English--Barrier or Bridge to Int'l Understanding?" Mainichi Daily News, 3 December, p. 4.

This article discusses whether any one culture "owns" a language. That is, must the student of English be locked into learning the culturally specific features of that language as dictated by a nation where that language serves as a primary means of communication. Amano's philosophical concerns have implications for the way in which foreign languages are taught in Japan.

Amano, I. (1986). "Dilemma in Education Today (I)," Japan Times, 31 August, p. 8.

Ikuo Amano, a professor at the School of Education, University of Tokyo, begins his discussion with a historical review of education in Japan. This is particularly interesting because of the heavy Western influence on this Japanese institution--first the establishment of Western models in 1872 and then the reforms initiated by the Allied Occupation authorities after World War II. Amano points out that while educational institutions are traditionally the most resistant to change, after each of Japan's major reforms in this area, the nation experienced rapid expansion in its political power and its economic growth. Some argue that Japan's educational system will not be as vigorous as it has in the past giving 4 reasons to support their position: (1) Expansion of the Japanese system has nearly ended; (2) Equal opportunity in education has been achieved; (3) There is no strong pressure from industry to reform; and (4) The educational system is not under attack from any segment of society. However, the students themselves have become increasingly vocal in recent years about their dissatisfaction with educational policies and especially the emphasis on formal examinations. Amano focuses his attention on some of these complaints which may, in time, serve to stimulate new educational reforms.

Amano, I. (1986). "Dilemma in Education Today (II)," Japan Times, 1 September, p. 6.

Amano continues his discussion of the examination system in Japan. He cites two reason the examination system has become a permanent feature of Japanese education: (1) the paucity of institutions of secondary and higher education and (2) the stratification of the institutions that exist. Overpopulation and the rapid growth in Japan's economy have contributed to the general interest in obtaining university training. These trends have only aggravated the competitiveness at the entrance exam level by students and university authorities alike. As a result, Japanese education has begun to attend more to the acquisition of academic credentials and less on the substance citizens need to live useful and happy lives. Amano predicts that as this crisis becomes more widely acknowledged, new reforms to Japan's educational system will be initiated.

"Applications Being Accepted for College Entrance Examinations," Japan Times 25 October 1988, p. 2.

The College Entrance Examination Center has begun to accept applications for the preliminary 1989 public college admissions exams. The results of this test will determine who qualifies to write exams for entrance to national universities in the 1989 school year. Nearly 400,000 applicants are expected to take the preliminary exams.

"Applications Filed for New Colleges," Japan Times, 10 August 1988.

Applications have been filed with the Education Ministry for the establishment of 22 universities and colleges in 1989 and 19 more in 1990. This would provide openings for 17,000 students by the end of this two year period. Under a higher education plan laid out in 1986, college student enrollment is to be increased by 86,000 by 1992. By 1990, total student enrollment at all universities and colleges in Japan should be about 1.02 million.

Arata, S. (1988). "Universities Eye British Campuses," Asahi Evening News, 16 July.

Japanese schools and universities are showing an interest in opening branches in Britain. They hope to attract children of Japanese businessmen working in England as well as other Japanese students who will be sent from Japan to make them "internationally minded." The first Japanese-invested school was Winchester Shoei College in 1982. Teikyo University in Tokyo has plans to open a branch on the campus of Durham University in Northern England. Gyosei International High School in Chiba has similar plans with Reading University.

Armstrong, C. (1987). "English-Language Schools in Japan: Are Students Getting Their Money's Worth?" Asahi Evening News, 28 October, p. 6.

This general survey discusses the number of English-language schools in the Tokyo area, the qualifications of teachers at these schools, and the types of students they attract. Included is a condemnation of the way English is taught within formal Japanese educational settings and a description of the types of training businesses must provide to up-grade their employees' language skills.

Aston, M. (1988). "Eugene Nomura: Turning Japanese," Mainichi Daily News, 19 December, p. 12.

Sixteen-year-old Eugene Nomura has never lived abroad, but he attended international school until he was 14. He is fluent in English. When Eugene was transferred to a Japanese junior high school two and a half years ago, the change was almost as if he had moved to a foreign country. This interview with Eugene describes some of the difficulties he has experienced in the traditional Japanese school environment.

B

Barrager, D. (1988). "Westernizing by Degrees," Tokyo Journal, 8(6), September, pp. 4-9, 97.

Barrager gives a general overview of the growth of American university training now available in Japan. Temple University and Southern Illinois University are specifically mentioned along with details of their programs.

Bjerner, T. (1987). "School Violence," Tokyo Journal, September, pp. 26-27.

Although Japanese education is widely admired around the world, this article suggests that these same schools often deprive students of normal childhoods. For instance, bullying by fellow students and brutality by teachers are common features of school life. This article provides a number of specific examples to show that violence and humiliation continue to be an unofficial part of the school curriculum.

"Boy Expelled for Abusing Foreign Teacher Verbally," Daily Yomiuri, 15 October 1988, p. 2.

The circumstances surrounding the expulsion of a student from a Japanese school are described in great detail. Two items of note here are (1) the boy was asked to leave school "voluntarily" and (2) despite a long record of other poor behavior the principal stated that expulsion would probably not have occurred had the problem concerned a Japanese teacher.

"Businessman Sets up Endowment Fund for Oregon Teachers," Daily Yomiuri, 26 August 1988.

Hiroshi Tanaka, president of Kyotaru Co., Ltd., has established a fund with a $100,000 endowment to send Oregon teachers to Japan on cultural exchange programs. The endowments will be awarded to educators in the state who are innovative in their integration of Japanese education into their school courses.

C

Cantillon, S. (1988). "Hiroshima Woman Gains Recognition for Helping Foreign Students 20 Years," Japan Times, 13 December, p. 4.

Mitsuko Sanai, an elderly woman in Hiroshima who has spent the latter part of her life running the Asia Bunka Kaikan which serves as a dormitory for foreign students, has been presented with an award for her work. Her dormitory was originally built because foreign students had difficulty finding housing in the community.

"Cashing in on Growing Number of Universities," Asahi Evening News, 16 December 1987, p. 6.

In 1987 Japan had 594 universities across the country; 16 more were expected to open in 1988. These 16 new universities will enroll a total of 3,000 students. This growth in educational institutions has attracted the interest of many Japanese communities for several reasons. University campuses would, first of all, add prestige to these cities, and second, they would boost the local economy.

"Chinese to Punish African Students," International Herald Tribune, 30 December 1988, p. 2.

African students at Hehai University in Nanking, China, have been subjected to violence by other members of the university. A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Beijing stated that the incident was "an isolated one, having nothing to do with racial discrimination."

Chira, S. (1988). "Japanese College Clubs Keep the Harmony," Asahi Evening News, 6 July.

University clubs are where Japanese students are schooled in the all-important ways of their society: how to work together in harmony, how to devote themselves to group goals, how to make and preserve relationships, how to defer to their seniors and guide their juniors. "Many students seek in clubs a community and sense of purpose that Japanese university education does not offer them."

Chujo, Y. 1988). "Compulsory Travel," Asahi Evening News, 19 December, p. 5.

This letter to the editor reflects on the growing trend in university students traveling abroad during their senior year and the need for them to be culturally sensitive during these visits to other countries.

"Computer Helps Disabled Children Write," Japan Times, 23 November 1988, p. 2.

Osamu Sueta, an assistant professor at Naruto Teachers University, and Seiji Nakahara, a teacher at the Hinomine School for Disabled Children in Tokushima Prefecture, have developed software which makes it possible for children with cerebral palsy to write an essay on computers.

Coulmas, F. (1988a). "The University's Role in Affluent Society," Japan Times, 12 June.

Coulmas, a visiting professor at Chuo University in Tokyo, cites a common criticism of Japanese universities ("University students spend too much time having fun") and then suggests that the issue is really that these students have fun with the wrong things. He also argues that this same criticism can be leveled at university professors. "The greatest service the Japanese university can render its society is to demonstrate the importance and the sweetness of intellectual adventures which are not directly related to utilitarian purposes but which are the foundation of true culture."

Coulmas, F. (1988b). "Education and Society in Modern Japan," Japan Times, 8 October, p. 14.

Educational Thought and Ideology in Modern America by Teruhisa Horio offers an opportunity to develop an understanding both of the ideological underpinnings and the practical details of Japan's educational system. This is a system which has had a history of conflict between two schools of thought--one which focuses on the importance of education for the state and another which puts the individual's development at the center of its concern.

"Council to Study Education of Japanese Pupils Abroad," Japan Times, 3 May 1988.

The Overseas Children's Education Research Council which consists of 14 experts on education is examining problems of Japanese children while they are studying abroad as well as problems they encounter upon their return to Japan.

"Crackdown Scheduled for Language Schools," Daily Yomiuri, 1 November 1988, p. 2.

In an effort to regulate foreigners working illegally in Japan, the Justice Ministry will soon tighten its inspection standards of Japanese language schools for foreigners and obligate these schools to increase class hours to more than 30 hours per week.

Cucek, M. (1988). "Some Food for Thought," Japan Times, 23 September 1988, p. 20.

This letter to the editor points out two faces of effective organization in present-day Japanese society. On the one hand students are content to operate as tightly controlled units, but on the other hand they are able to balance this with periods of play and individual expression.

"Curriculum Changes on the Way," Asahi Evening News, 2 December 1987, p. 6.
..See Notebook File 2

New curricula at Japanese primary, junior high, and senior high schools will go into effect in 1992, 1993 and 1994 respectively. The curriculum changes stress basic studies which nurture students' individuality while deepening their international understanding as well as their respect for Japanese culture and traditions.

Cutler, K. (1988). "Students, Companies Forge Link," Asahi Evening News, 16 December, p. 3.

Nissho Iwai, one of Japan's largest trading companies, plans to open the College Museum, a joint student union/market research center. This venture is designed to allow companies and students to communicate directly.

D

Deutsch, C. (1988). "Standardized Testing for Schools, Jobs Has Become Big Business," Asahi Evening News, 26 October, p. 6.

The author concludes that (1) testing is growing at a rapid rate; (2) employers and educators alike put great stock in the efficacy of multiple-choice tests; and (3) with revenues from creating and administering tests are combined with those from books, computer programs, tapes and courses to help people prepare for them, testing is a huge business.

Diener, T. (1988). "Why Aren't AETs 'True' Teachers?" Daily Yomiuri, 17 November, p. 7.

Diener, a member of the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program, argues that attitudes within Japanese society rather than the lack of credentials held by AETs place foreign teachers in inferior positions within the educational system.

"Donation to Help Foreign Students," Japan Times, 24 November 1988, p. 3.

Ichiro Sugawara, the chairman of a plywood processing company in Kobe has donated ¥1 billion to establish a scholarship fund for students from developing countries. An estimated 410 students from 28 countries are now studying at Kobe University and neighboring schools.

Dougherty, L. (1988a). "Students Undecided on Japan's Global Role," Japan Times, 21 October, p. 3.

At a seminar sponsored by United Nations University, university students discussed Japan's role in the international community. In particular, there are comments in this article about the way Japanese believe they are perceived by the United States.

Dougherty, L. (1988b). "A Matter of Standards," Japan Times, 9 November, p. 16.

An address by Randolph Quirk was followed by a discussion by English professors from several Japanese universities who commented on contemporary language teaching in Japan.

Dougherty, L. (1988c). "Historian Follows Trails of the Samurai, Cowboys," Japan Times, 23 November, p. 3.

William Sharp, associate history professor and dean of Temple University of Japan, delivered a lecture comparing the myths surrounding the samurai of Japan and the cowboys of the American West.

Doyle, D. (1988). "Selling Education: Why Not?" Japan Times, 28 August.

Doyle, a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, speaking about the public schools of the United States, suggests that instead of "supply side" education, in which the system is run for the convenience of the bureaucrats, a "public sector market" offers advantages because it enshrines the concept of consumer sovereignty. Requiring public schools to compete with one another would transform the education community; Doyle believes that for the first time teachers would become professionals, students across the board would learn more, and racial integration would become a reality. To prove the validity of his argument, Doyle cites U.S. universities as examples where this successful model already exists.

Duke, B. (1987). "On Higher Education," Mainichi Daily News, 19 October.

This is a review of Universities Under Scrutiny, a publication by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The OECD report is a study of universities around the globe and investigates their ability to adapt to the rapid social changes in this modern period.

Duke, B. (1986). The Japanese School: Lessons for Industrial America. New York: Praeger.

Duke poses the question: "Does Japan's competitive industrial edge begin with its educational process?" He then explores the impact of the Japanese school system of that nation's tremendous economic development since World War II, and suggests that the United States can increase its industrial competitiveness by strengthening and revitalizing the American school system.

E

"Education Schools to Cut Back on Teacher Training," Mainichi Daily News, 27 December 1987, p. 12.

Hokkaiko University of Education, Tokyo Gakugei University, Kyoto University of Education, and Osaka University of Education have announced they will reduce the number of students admitted to their teacher training courses due to the decreasing number of primary and junior high school students. To maintain current enrollment levels, these schools are setting up new programs which will enable graduates to find private sector jobs in communications, translation, international exchange and biotechnology.

"Educator to Give $800,000 to U.S. College," Mainichi Daily News, 30 December 1988, p. 12.

Tsukasa Karashima, the president of the Kumamoto Foreign Language Academy in Kumamoto Prefecture, has pledged an $800,000 endowment to the University of Montana that will be used to hire a professor of the Japanese language.

"Ehime Marine Students Flee Dorm Bullies," Daily Yomiuri, 30 October 1988, p. 2.

Thirty-one second-year students at a marine vocational school fled their dormitory and returned to their homes saying they could no longer tolerate violence from a group of upperclassmen.

"Elementary Pupil to Solo in Class," Daily Yomiuri, 10 November 1988, p. 2.

Yuji Watanabe, 6, lives in Tsuchikura, a village which has 44 residents in 12 households and no other school-age children. Because this village is located high in the mountains and is isolated during the winter months because of deep snow, a one-student and one-teacher school has been established for Yuji.

"English Teacher Held in Slashing of Train Seats," Japan Times, 20 December 1988, p. 2.

A Bangladeshi English teacher was arrested for slashing train seats in Tokyo.

Enomoto, N. (1988). "Motivated Student Will Learn," Japan Times, 27 September, p. 20.

This letter to the editor by a public high school teacher argues that the type of English taught in the classroom may be suitable for those preparing to take university examinations, but it does not foster practical skills that might motivate students to learn.

Enomoto, Y. (1988). "Pioneering High Schools Teaching Boys Exactly What They Teach the Girls," Japan Times, 4 December, p. 10.

The Ministry of Education has selected two high schools from Kawasaki and Fukushima to research prospects for the future mixing of home economics classes. If facility costs and space availability problems are solved and if the ministry is convinced of the new system's advantages, then in 1994, it will be nationally enforced.

"Essay Topics Spice Up Entrance Exams," Asahi Evening News, 8 March 1988.

This editorial comments on a trend in the use of written essays for university entrance examinations. Examples are given from the entrance test for the Literature Department of Osaka University and the Economics Department at Kyoto University.

"Exam Hell Time Near for Ronin," Mainichi Daily News, 30 December 1988, p. 12.

"Ronin" is a term that used to be applied to masterless samurai in feudal times, but now it is used for those students who have failed their college entrance examinations and who have taken a year or more off to study in preparation for taking them again. Results of a poll taken at Waseda Preparatory School reveals the physical and emotional strain these students must endure.

"'Examination Hell' Rages Away in Singapore Too," Japan Times, 30 December 1988, p. 7.

An increasing number of young people are seeking psychiatric help in Singapore because of the pressure to excel in their examinations. Seven- and 10-year olds have talked of suicide because they could not cope with their studies.

Farnsworth, D. (1988). "Pacific Cultural College Mooted," Daily Yomiuri, 22 September, p. 3.

At the Tokyo Colloquium, an annual event sponsored by the Yomiuri Shimbun and the Yomiuri Research Institute, it was proposed that the Asia-Pacific area needs a multinational university dedicated to teaching the area's peoples about each others cultures. While most participants expressed interest in this idea, it was noted that the university's apparent purpose of protecting cultures against the advanced Western cultures would not work because the school's language would have to be English--the lingua franca of the region--and because the advanced technologies of Japan and the U.S. would be the mediums for transmitting information.

Female Graduates Top 100,000 in '88," Japan Times, 16 November 1988, p. 2.

According to an Education Ministry report, the number of women graduating from colleges in 1988 topped 100,000 for the first time. Their employment rate upon graduation hit 75.2 per cent, the highest figure in 30 years. The advance of women into the job market is expected to continue as a result of Japan's economic expansion and the Equal Employment Opportunity Law. On the other hand, 25 per cent of students who finished postgraduate courses this year did not or could not secure employment.

"Fewer Graduates Find Employment as Teachers," Daily Yomiuri, 18 September 1988, p. 2.

The Education Ministry reported that only slightly more than half of the 1988 graduates of national universities that specialize in teacher training have found employment at primary, middle and high schools. A total of 19,460 students graduated with degrees in education, but only 11,247 were hired as teachers. This was 3% lower than 1987 and the lowest since the end of World War II. To correct this problem, 25 teachers' colleges and universities will enroll 2,665 freshmen in programs such as information science rather than education.

"First-Year College Bill Is ¥1.2 - 1.76 Mil., Poll Says," Japan Times, 12 March 1988.

Students who enrolled at private colleges in 1987 and who lived away from their parents spent an average of ¥1.7 million for their first year of education while students living at home and attending college spent ¥1.2 million. The poll surveyed 10,766 families with children enrolled at 16 private colleges in the Tokyo area. Families with annual incomes of more than ¥6 million accounted for 65.4% of these students.

Flipo, R. (1988). "Learn How It's Done Here--And Back There," Mainichi Daily News, 22 November, p. 12.

Two schools teaching intercultural communication styles are described. Both Japanese and foreigners are learning each other's ways.

Ford, J. (1987). "Japanese Higher Education Under Fire," Mainichi Daily News, 5 November, p. 8.

This report reflects on the shortcomings of science management in universities and probes the reasons for Japan's mediocre reputation in basic research. Among the reasons given for these problems are (1) the poor salaries paid to university researchers and (2) the inflexibility and domination of a research project by a tenured academic chair. Another possibility is suggested by Daizo Kunii, professor emeritus at Tokyo University: "Japanese have always been receiving and adapting science and technology from advanced civilizations for maybe 2,000 years. It's very difficult to change scientists' ways of thinking from the 'following' attitude to a 'creative' attitude." Others point out that Japanese scientists are not risk takers, and attribute this to the fact that the university entrance examinations stifle creativity and fail to encourage those who have original ideas.

"Foreign-Taught Students Face Problems," Mainichi Daily News, 21 May 1986, p. 5.

Traditionally, big-name Japanese companies have only been interested in graduates from big-name Japanese universities. This accounts for the difficulty some graduates from American and British universities have when they return to look for work in Japan. Overseas experience isolates students from vital avenues of information and support such as introductions from upperclassmen and professors. Also, because the U.S. academic year starts in September, returnees don't fit into the Japanese employment cycle which begins in April. Nevertheless, the number of Japanese studying at overseas universities more than doubled in the past decade from 11,000 in 1975 to 24,000 in 1985. "The United States, the destination for 14,000 students in 1985, is by far the most popular country for overseas study, with 20 percent heading for sunny California."

"Foundation's Licensing Procedure Questioned," Mainichi Daily News, 9 November 1988, p. 12.

The Fukuoka Prefectural Board of Education granted a license to an education foundation set up by a former vice education minister who has been implicated in an insider trading scandal.

Freed, A., and Freed, R. 1988). "A Meeting of Various Cultures That Aims to Achieve Genuine Internationalization," Japan Times, 20 November, p. 7.

The East-West Discussion Group which meets weekly at International House in Tokyo serves a small number of Japanese who want to discuss serious topics in English among themselves and with English-speaking foreigners from around the world. This group, founded 35 years ago, provides a forum of exchange of serious ideas which are ordinarily not discussed when Japanese encounter foreigners here.

"From Sexism to 'Overqualified,'" Japan Times, 20 November 1988, p. 16.

This editorial notes that while the employment rate for female university graduates has hit a record high of 75.2 percent, another type of discrimination has begun to affect women job seekers. This new discrimination is "overqualification." According to a Ministry of Education report, one out of every four who earned doctorate degrees this past spring were unable to find jobs. Among those completing master's degrees, 8.4 percent failed to get full-time employment.

Fujimoto, K. (1988)."Teacher Wins Top Prize in Video Festival," Japan Times, 30 November, p. 13.

The grand prize for the 11th Tokyo Video Festival went to an elementary school teacher who captured scenes of family life by lending a video camera to his pupils. Unlike the usual katei homon, when a teacher makes a round of calls at the homes of pupils, students in Yamamoto's class were handed a video camera and told to record their parents' comments plus life at home.

Fujino, A. (1988). "Chinese Students Slam Japan Visa Delays," Daily Yomiuri, 17 November, p. 2.

Protests have taken place at the Japanese Consulate in Shanghai following tightened immigration checks by the Japanese Justice Ministry. The protesters are mostly students who have applied for entrance to Japanese language schools. Many, using their own funds, have already paid tuition fees to the schools they plan to attend.

G

Geddes, D. (1988). "Education a Priority in Plans to Maintain Economic Buoyancy," International Herald Tribune, 28 November, p. 8.

French President Francois Mitterrand has made educational reforms high priority item for his nation. He has given his education minister, Lionel Jospin, the most senior place in his government--above even that of the finance or foreign ministers. "In the future, a nation's power will depend less on its financial wealth than on its gray matter."

"Gephardt: Language Skills Vital," Daily Yomiuri, 19 November 1988, p. 2.

U.S. Congressman Richard Gephardt, visiting a branch of Southern Illinois University in Niigata, said that such schools are needed to help U.S. businessmen learn the Japanese language well enough to compete in Japan. He expressed the hope that other U.S. colleges will establish their own branches in Japan.

"Government to Examine Private-School Funding," Daily Yomiuri, 24 November 1988, p. 2.

Education Minister Gentaro Nakajima has decided to review government subsidies to private schools in the wake of an ¥800 million donation by Teikyo University to the Lifetime Study Foundation.

"Govt Subsidies Drop for Private Schools," Daily Yomiuri, 3 October 1988, p. 2.

Government subsidies for private schools have dropped by 4.7 percent. The average subsidy is about ¥50,000 less per student than those awarded in fiscal 1982. As a result, private schools have been forced to raise tuitions.

"Govt to Increase 1989 JET Program," Daily Yomiuri, 10 October 1988, p. 2.

A total of 1,443 foreigners are now employed by the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program, but the Ministry of Education plans to increase this number to 1,900 next year. The ultimate goal will be to have 3000 participants representing the United States, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Ireland.

"Grad Students of future May Study Fewer Years," Daily Yomiuri, 26 November 1988, p. 2.

A report by the University Council has recommended that competent students be allowed to skip grades in university which could move them directly from their junior year of study to graduate school. Those who take this course would not be awarded bachelor's degrees and would be treated as non-college degree students in master degree programs. At the same time, the report proposed that students in master's courses should be able to complete their studies in one year rather than the current two years. Doctoral programs have been recommended to remain the same with three years of study needed.

"Grading the Graduate Schools," Daily Yomiuri, 28 November 1988, p. 6.

The number of postgraduate students in Japan is only 0.6 of every 1000 people. The Education Ministry Council had developed some guidelines for reform to improve postgraduate training. The council's report emphasized "internationalization" as well as "life-long education" and recommended making postgraduate schools more flexible with greater concern for quality. The concept of "nighttime graduate school" has formally been introduced.

"Group to Study Ways to Help Foreign Students," Asahi Evening News, 7 December 1988, p. 6.

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce will send a team to three Southeast Asian countries to study ways of providing better relief to foreign students in Japan. The group will visit Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore to contact people who have studied at universities in the Kansai area.

"Group Urges Reform of High School Exams," Daily Yomiuri, 12 April 1988.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Public High School Principals' Association has made recommendations for changes in policies concerning entrance examinations as a result of a huge shift in student population from public to private high schools.

"Group's Aim Is Cultural Awareness," Japan Times, 20 November 1988, p. 2.

Susantha Herath, a foreign student from Sri Lankan who is enrolled in an electrical engineering program at Keio University, is the leader of a 13-member organization called the World (Youth) Organization for Inter-Cultural Exchange. The group, most of whose members are foreign students in Japan, hope to sponsor events that will raise awareness of their homelands by the Japanese people.

H

"Hi-Tech Research Leads Industry-Academic Boom," Mainichi Daily News, 2 August 1988.

Joint research programs carried out by private industry and universities have increased sevenfold over the past five years. The Education Ministry reported that 259 business firms and 42 out of 95 national universities participated in these programs. The number of patent applications for inventions derived from joint research programs jumped to 38 in fiscal 1987 from 18 the previous year.

"High School Credit Gained Overseas OK Here Soon," Daily Yomiuri, 6 January 1988.

The Education Ministry will allow students to transfer up to 30 credits earned at schools overseas. Presently, most Japanese high school students complete 30 credits a year. University students are already permitted to apply up to 30 units earned overseas to university or college graduation requirements in Japan.

"High Schools to Credit Study Abroad," Japan Times, 7 January 1988.

The Education Ministry will allow students to transfer up to 30 credits earned at schools overseas. Under current regulations, students must withdraw from their school before going abroad and then seek readmission upon their return to Japan.

Hill, J. (1988a). "College, Japanese Strike Deal," The Oregonian, 13 September.

Amvic International, an organization which was founded in 1973 by Tsuneo Kusunoki which currently operates more than 70 schools in Japan, has purchased 49% of Warner Pacific College facilities in Portland, Oregon, for $6 million. The strategy is that with an accredited liberal arts college in Oregon, Amvic will gain a major marketing advantage in Japan.

Hill, J. (1988b). "Pacific U., Concordia Find Asian Niche," The Oregonian, 24 October, pp. B-1, 3.

Exchange programs as well as other cooperative agreements are being forged by a number of Oregon's institutions of higher education to strengthen understanding between the U.S. and Asia. Among these are Pacific University and Concordia College. Pacific University, for example, has received a $1.5 million gift from Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., and will use this fund to develop the Pacific Intercultural Institute on its campus. At the same time, Concordia College in Portland is offering full-year or short-course instruction for Japanese business executives. At other Oregon institutions, similar programs are being initiated. For example, the University of Oregon has established a Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, and at Portland State University the International Trade Institute and the North Pacific Applied Research Center will focus attention on Asian affairs.

"Himeji to Teach English in Kindergartens," Daily Yomiuri, 16 November 1988, p. 2.

The Himeji Board of Education has decided to introduce English in all 57 public city kindergartens next school year. English education normally begins in middle schools and many students grow to dislike it because of its association with school entrance examinations. Bringing English into the students' lives earlier may help to overcome these negative attitudes.

Hirama, K. (1988). "How to Improve School Clubs," Daily Yomiuri, 10 November 1988, p. 7.

This is the full text of the speech which won first prize in the 40th All Japan Inter-Middle School English Oratorical Contest. Kazuaki Hirama argues that increased flexibility concerning attendance at club meetings and a more informal relationship between members of clubs would improve the effectiveness of these school organizations.

Hirayama, Y. (1988). "Why Japan's Research Lags," Japan Times, 11 December, p. 18.

The Japanese tendency to preserve group harmony and to downplay individualism is cited as a reason U.S. research is more vigorous than that of Japan. Furthermore, the climate for research within institutions of higher learning is more favorable in the United States than in Japan.

"Home Country Entrance Exams Planned," Daily Yomiuri, 3 September 1988.

The Education Ministry has begun research to develop a university entrance examination for foreign students that will enable applicants to take the test in their own countries. Factors to be considered are the language to be used, the subject matter to be dealt with, and the level of difficulty. Currently, entrance examinations for foreign students who study at their own expense are held annually in Tokyo and Osaka. Most foreign students at Japanese universities come from the United States and South Korea, but the Education Ministry would like to stimulate applications from China, Malaysia, and Thailand.

House, J. (1988a). "A Bad Day for Japlish," Asahi Evening News, 26 October 1988, p. 6.

This report on a recent lecture by Sir Randolph Quirk, Emeritus professor of English at London University and president of the British Academy. Quirk represents the traditional strain of grammarians who hold that language can (and must) conform to set rules and conventions; dialects and non-standard forms can be ignored as irrelevant. House clearly disagrees with this assessment because exposure to the English encountered in Japan so regularly fails to meet the pure expectations that Quirk and his ilk have attempted to institutionalize.

House, J. (1988b). "Grammarians Come Out and Be Counted," Asahi Evening News, 7 December, p. 6.

In a set of lectures given recently by Jeremy Harmer grammar is "taken out of the closet" and allowed a new lease on life. However, Harmer does not advocate long explanations on grammar rules; overt grammar teaching may actually obscure the target language for the student by confusing through complexity. "The important thing about grammar teaching is that it should show, and not make opaque, how the language operates."

Huxtable, M. (1988). "Wakabayashi on Team Teaching," Daily Yomiuri, 24 November, p. 7.

An AET expresses his views about the Japan Exchange and Teaching program.

I

"Incidents of Violence and Bullying Decline in Public Schools in Tokyo," Japan Times, 20 October 1988, p. 2.

According to a survey conducted by the Tokyo Office of Education, 947 elementary, junior and senior high schools reported a total of 3,206 bullying incidents last year. This was down from 5,847 incidents in 1,321 schools during 1986.

"Increases in Tuition Fail to Soak Up Private Universities' ¥29 Billion Debt," Japan Times, 28 December 1988, p. 2.

The 102 member schools of the Japan Private University Federation ran a combined deficit of about ¥29 billion in 1987. For this reason, three-quarters of the universities increased tuition by an average of 3 percent. Government subsidies account for 12.8 percent of these schools' total revenues--down 6 percentage points from the level five years earlier.

"Internationalizing Education," Japan Times, 4 December 1988, p. 16.

The current concern of Japanese to "internationalize" has led to some interesting innovations in the world of education. One of these has been the proliferation of foreign university campuses in Japan. Another is the availability of high schools for students returning from living abroad.

"Intl School to Admit 50% on Recommendation," Daily Yomiuri, 24 August 1988.

Usually admission to a Japanese high school is determined by a student's previous academic record and the results of an entrance examination. A new international high school scheduled to open in Tokyo in April, 1989, will admit half of its student body based upon recommendations of their middle schools, the results of a Japanese composition, and an interview.

"Int'l University of Japan Plans M.B.A. Program," Japan Times, 26 January 1988, p. 3.

The International University of Japan in Niigata will establish a business school in collaboration with the Amos Tuck Business School of Dartmouth University. About half of the teaching staff will be professors from Amos Tuck and other U.S. business schools, and all courses will be taught in English. Enrollment will be limited to about 150 students per class.

Iwasaki, K. (1987). "Newspaper Reading Helps Students Pass Univ. Exams," Daily Yomiuri, 17 December, p. 6.

Kazo Iwasaki, an English teacher at Tezukayama Gakuin Izumigaoka High School in Osaka, argues that if a language is treated as a tool of communication from the beginning, it will save students a lot of time and energy. A model English program for secondary schools is described with special emphasis placed on student work with authentic texts from English newspapers. A large number of the high school students participating in these classes passed entrance examinations for prestigious universities.

J

"Jailed Teacher Gets to Compile Report Cards," Japan Times, 21 December 1988, p. 2.

A physical education instructor arrested for taking part in an illegal craps game has been given permission to prepare report cards while in custody.

Jain, N. (1988). "Is Japanese Students' Creativity Stifled?" Japan Times, 11 May.

Japanese education is under attack because it stifles individual creativity and ability in its pursuit of educational excellence. "Educational excellence" is generally defined as superior scores on examinations. Some possible reforms are suggested.

"Japan Hoping Its Scientific Research Will Match Its Technological Progress," Japan Times, 30 December 1988, p.3.

Yoshiro Miki, director of policy research at the Science and Technology Agency, states that Japan is out to reform its scientific research establishment into one that produces Nobel Prize winners. The current problem is that Japan's system is not a merit system; it's a seniority system. Independent research is not encouraged.

"Japan Lagging in Basic R&D," Mainichi Daily News, 26 December 1988, p. 2.

In a recent report, Japan was found to lag behind the United States and Europe in most areas of basic research and as a result could lose its economic competitiveness. The report suggested that Japan establish a large "world class" research center that would be open to overseas researchers as a step toward improving its research infrastructure. A survey of 800 companies showed that 62% felt their research personnel were inadequate in both number and quality.

"Japan University Opening in Britain," Daily Yomiuri, 1 September 1988.

Gyosei Kokusai Gakuen has announced that it will establish a 4-year university in the city of Reading for Japanese students. The students to be accepted will be graduates of Japanese high schools, Japanese schools abroad, and foreign high schools. The university will accept 100 students for their international liberal arts course and 50 for their international business administration course. Lectures will be given mainly in English by a Japanese and British teaching staff.

"Japanese Company Sets Up U.S. Exchange Scholarship," Japan Times, 10 October 1988, p. 2.

A Japanese real estate company, Maruko Inc., and a U.S. privately funded organization, Sister Cities International, recently announced a scholarship exchange program between American cities and their sister cities overseas for young entrepreneurial and professional trainees.

"Japanese Language Schools Enjoying Good Business Here," Mainichi Daily News, 29 November 1988, p. 4.

In the past decade there has been a surge in the number of language schools offering training in Japanese. This growth is due in part to the increased interest of the world in Japan's culture as well as the internationalization of Japan's economy. With the proliferation of schools offering language courses have come some which serve as fronts for illegal foreign workers. As a result, Japanese Immigration has begun to scrutinize more carefully the qualifications of foreign students who apply for visas.

"Japanese Weekend School to Close 2 Branches," Asahi Evening News, 3 February 1988.

The Japanese Weekend School of New York, the largest school abroad to give supplementary lessons to Japanese expatriate children, plans to close two of its branches at this time and reopen two new ones in 1989. These changes will require 1,400 of the school's 4,334 students to shift from one campus to another. The weekend supplementary school was founded as a Japanese-language school in 1962 by the Japanese Education Institute of New York. It was approved as a school by New York State in 1975.

JAPCU (1987). Japan's Private Colleges and Universities: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Tokyo: Japan Association of Private Colleges and Universities.

This book, written by members of the private college and university community in Japan, reports on the status of their educational institutions. These private schools have made significant contributions to higher education in Japanese society; since World War II, they have grown rapidly to accommodate a 30-fold increase in enrollment. This expansion has produced profound changes--increasingly diversified education and more complex administrative structures. Charts and tables throughout the text provide rich sources of information.

Jennings, J. (1988). "Training Abroad Critic Refuted," Daily Yomiuri, 16 June.

"It is utterly ridiculous to think that 'systematic cultural instruction' in Japan by experts is preferable to the actual experience of living in another culture. Any cultural information the best experts could give would be an interpretation, an opinion of what they feel are the important aspects of that culture, with no chance for personal interpretation. A one-dimensional presentation can never compare to day-to-day interaction with foreigners in their own culture."

Johnson, T. (1988). "Irate Chinese Students Worry Gov't," Asahi Evening News, 19 November, p. 3.

Since November 7, students in Shanghai have been protesting the slow procedures used by the Japanese government in issuing study visas. A spokesman for the Japanese immigration service states that the number of Chinese student applicants over the past few months has risen to 35,000, and this has overwhelmed the consulate staff who must process the paperwork.

"Kawanishi Oldsters Take English Class," Daily Yomiuri, 30 June 1988.

Thirty-five senior citizens from 60 to 79 years old have begun English conversation classes at a club in Kawanishi.

Kent, L. (1988). "Overseas Study No Panacea," Daily Yomiuri, 23 June 1988.

"The goal of public school English education is not 'real communication' (a meaningless buzzword) but the systematic weeding out of students by means of examinations."

Kitamura, S. (1988). "Exchange Students Find Problems Here," Daily Yomiuri, 21 November, p. 2.

A survey conducted jointly by professors from Keio University and Chiba University shows that the same things foreign students complained about in Japan 10 years ago are still problems. Japan is viewed as a nation that is cold and closed to outsiders--a land where excessive drinking and inequality of the sexes is repellent. Finding housing is a difficulty many foreigners complain about.

Kitazume, T. (1987). "Cities Want U.S. Univs. to Boost Economics," Japan Times, 25 February, p. 3.

Some municipal governments are courting the more than 60 American universities which have expressed interest in establishing branch schools in Japan. They hope that the introduction of higher education facilities will lead to an influx of industrial capital. As incentives for U.S. universities, most of these municipal governments have offered free land and promised various other forms of assistance from local businesses. The names of various U.S. universities which have aspirations for a Japanese branch are included in this report.

"Know How to Use a Computer?" Mainichi Daily News, 22 November 1988, p. 12.

The number of elementary schools with computers (13.5 percent of the total) has increased seven times over the past two years while that of junior high schools (35.5 percent of the total) has tripled during the same period. Of senior high schools 93.7 percent are equipped with computers. However, the number of teachers who can teach how to use computers accounts for only 4 percent of the total number of teachers. Although the number of schools with computers has been increasing rapidly, the students have little access to them since most are placed in teachers' rooms or isolated in special rooms for computers.

"Kokusai School to Include Foreigners," Japan Times, 9 September 1988, p. 2.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Kokusai High School will begin to accept applications from foreign residents in Tokyo and from Japanese students who received schooling abroad as well as from graduates of ordinary Japanese junior high schools. According to the Office of Education, different screening methods will be applied to applicants in accordance with their previous education backgrounds.

Korn, J. (1987). "Cram for Your Life," Tokyo Journal, September, pp. 11-13.

Cram schools (or Juku) have become a big business in Japan as more and more parents become convinced that going through the public school curriculum is not enough preparation for passing university entrance examinations. The closed nature of higher education in Japan contributes to the proliferation of private schools.

Kuroiwa, A. (1988). "Ketchup on Shoulder and Clean Politics," Daily Yomiuri, 17 November, p. 7.

Azumi Kuroiwa, a sophomore political science major at Keio University, won first prize at the 12th Annual All Japan Intercollegiate English Oratorical Contest for the Fukuzawa Trophy. This is an abridged version of his winning speech.

L

Lachica, E., and Yoder, S. (1988). "U.S. Pushes Tokyo over School Software," Asian Wall Street Journal, 9 November, p. 3.

The Reagan administration is pressing Tokyo for assurances that Japanese development of a new generation of educational computers won't discriminate against U.S. companies.

"Language Students," Daily Yomiuri, 24 November 1988, p. 6.

This editorial discusses the protest by Chinese in Shanghai who hope to come to Japan to study and lays most of the blame on dishonest language schools. People who study at language schools are classified as shugakusei or "learning persons" to distinguish them from ryugakusei or "foreign students" at Japanese universities. The number of shugakusei has increased from 2,000 in 1986 to 20,000 so far this year. The percentage of Chinese shugakusei has grown from 17 percent to 80 percent during this same period. Currently language schools are governed by no regulations or standards. Some schools accept more students than they report; some have submitted forged attendance records for students applying for renewal of their visas.

Leigh, B. (1987). "Alienation in the Japanese High School," Tokyo Journal, September, pp. 28-29.

The author takes a light-hearted look at the way today's high school students behave in society.

Lewis, D. (1988). "Japanese Scientists Place New Emphasis on Basic Research," International Herald Tribune, 7 December, p. 14.

About 80% of all research and development is handled by the private sector in Japan which frees the Japanese scientist from defense research. In the U.S., 70% of the national research budget is spent on defense.

"Libraries to Be Linked by High-Tech System," Asahi Evening News, 8 December 1988, p. 3.

Computer engineers have developed an electronic library reference system that enables users to look through book pages using computer images projected on a video screen.

M

Masler, D. (1987). "Examining the Examiners," Tokyo Journal, September, pp. 5-9, 56.

As observers from other nations search for the key to the success of Japan, they frequently focus their attention on the harmonious Japanese educational system. These observations may, however, reveal only the surface features of the schools in this nation; within these educational organizations much room exists for improvement and reform.

"Matsushita Gives ¥25 Bil. to Prize," Daily Yomiuri, 19 November 1988, p. 2.

The chief executive of Matsushita Electric Industrial will donate 10 million shares (worth ¥25 billion at current prices) to the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan. His contribution serves as an example how R&D is viewed as a responsibility of the business community--not the government.

McArthur, I. (1987). "Working Holiday Offers Slice of Life Down Under," Daily Yomiuri, 31 December, p. 4.

The Australian working holiday scheme developed by the Australia-Japan Foundation was initiated in 1980 in order to help Japanese students find part-time work for three months while they are enrolled at an English-language school.

McClure, S. (1987). "Ienaga Battles on with Ministry of Education," Japan Times Weekly, 21 November, p. 4.

Professor Saburo Ienaga, a professor emeritus of the now defunct Tokyo University of Education, continues his legal battle with the Ministry of Education with his third law suit since 1965. Ienaga claims the ministry is steadily increasing its control of the contents of textbooks which he believes may lead to a situation similar to the prewar era. At that time the education system was used by the state to promote its militaristic policies.

"Ministry Decides to Build Center of International Medical Cooperation," Japan Times, 25 November 1988, p. 2.

The Health and Welfare Ministry has decided to build an international medical cooperation center in Tokyo. This center will take medical students and trainees from developing countries in the initial stage and will serve as a national center for international cooperation in the future. In 1987, some 100 foreign medical trainees came to study at national hospitals in Japan.

"Ministry to Push Lifetime Education," Mainichi Daily News, 7 January 1987.

Responding to the Ad Hoc Council on Educational Reform, the Education Ministry has announced four changes in policy. First, the educational system of the country will be shifted from the current school-based one to a lifetime educational system. Second, an educational environment to promote learning should be initiated. Third, higher education must be upgraded and research--particularly basic science research--should be encouraged. Fourth, education must cope with the information age and contribute to the changing requirements of an international society. It also calls for a revision of the current entrance examination system for colleges and universities.

"MOF Calls for 5% Cut in Private Univ. Subsidies," Mainichi Daily News, 29 November 1988, p. 12.

The Finance Ministry has been forced to look more closely at its subsidy system following criticism that the heavily-subsidized Teikyo University made an extravagant donation to a special foundation. The ministry is expected to ask for a reduction of more than 5 percent from the budget for private universities for 1989. The government now grants private university subsidies based on the number of professors or students. Under this system, schools that are financially better off tend to receive more while the schools that need the most help get the least. To solve this problem, the Finance Ministry intends to increase the percentage of special subsidies allowed to schools implementing educational activities that few others provide.

"More Young People Touring Abroad," Japan Times, 18 December 1988, p. 2.

According to a government white paper compiled by the Management and Coordination Agency, 2.3 million people under 30 went overseas last year, but only 31,000 of them (1.6 percent) went for study or training.

Mori, F. (1988). "Violence in School a Societal Blight," Daily Yomiuri, 12 October, p. 2.

This letter to the editor comments on the fact that the Education Ministry's current survey on school violence reveals that 311 teachers were either punished or dismissed from schools for physically punishing or inflicting violence on their students during the 1987 school year.

"Most Like Nation's April Start for School," Japan Times, 26 December 1988, p. 2.

Although 60% of countries worldwide start their school year in September, a majority of the Japanese public opposes shifting the start of the school year from April to September because of the confusion it would create. The survey by the Prime Minister's Office amounts to a rejection of a government panel's recommendation that Japan should conform to foreign educational practices not only to help offspring of Japanese residents abroad reorient themselves after returning home but also to promote international exchanges.

Myers, F. (1988). "Sci-Tech Information Flow from Japan," Japan Times, 28 September, p. 15.

To obtain a doctorate in physics in Japan, a student is required to write a paper for a refereed journal on his thesis. It is a fact that 75 percent of the world papers in chemistry are printed in English. Only 10 percent are in Japanese. Therefore, a Japanese scientist who knows English has available 85 percent of all published documents while monolingual Americans and Brits are limited to 75 percent. In 1987, George Mason University in Virginia established a facility which would allow American scientists access to huge Japanese data banks, but that service has already been shut down owing to a lack of interest.

Nagase, R., (1987) "Japan's Bilingual Youngsters," Japan Times, 13 December.

Reiko Nagase, the former president of the College Women's Association of Japan, reports that as a result of Japan's position as an economic superpower, there are about 50,000 Japanese children living overseas with their parents, and about 10,000 return home each year. Nagase suggests that these youngsters will become the leaders of tomorrow's society because their bilingualism and openness will prove better qualifications for dealing with international problems than those who have remained clannish and parochial in traditional Japanese settings.

"Nation's Colleges Registered Record-High Deficits Last Year," Japan Times, 22 December 1987, p. 2.

The Japan Association of Private Colleges and Universities reported that its member institutions' deficits for 1986 amounted to ¥53.4 billion, nearly double the previous year's figures and the highest ever. Because of the deteriorating financial situation, 80% of these private universities and colleges are planning to raise tuition when the next school year begins.

"Need Seen for Sex-Education Training," Japan Times, 27 October 1988, p. 3.

A report given at a study meeting of the Japan Teachers' Union indicates that teachers see a need for sex education in junior high schools, but few believe they have the training to provide this type of instruction.

"New 'International Schools' Offer Alternative Education," Japan Times, 16 December 1988, p. 6.

Because large numbers of Japanese students are returning from study overseas and then entering Japanese universities, some of the traditional doctrines of Japanese education have begun to undergo changes. Some of the schools and the programs they have adopted are cited in this article. Among those mentioned are: Gakugei University High School Ohizumi Campus, ICU High School, Keimei Gakuen, Doshisha International High School, Tokyo Metropolitan International High School, and YMCA International High School. Included here is a graph illustrating the annual increase in returning students--elementary, junior high school, and high school--for the past decade.

"New Schedule Set for University Exams," Daily Yomiuri, 19 November 1988, p. 2.

National and public universities are divided into A and B groups. After the nationwide exam for national university admission is held in January, universities in the A group hold second entrance examinations in late February, while universities belonging to the B group hold tests in early March. This system gives applicants the opportunity to take entrance exams more than once.

"Newspaper for Chinese Students Set," Daily Yomiuri, 6 November 1988, p. 2.

The 12-page tabloid "Ryugakusei Shimbun" contains information about Japanese society, visas, apartments, and part-time work as well as news topics from China. Large populations of Chinese students in Japan make this type of publication possible. According to the Education Ministry, there were 22,000 foreign students attending universities in Japan as of May 1987. Of these, 5,661 represented mainland China, 5,317 came from Taiwan, and 401 came from Hong Kong. When students at Japanese language schools (who were not included in this survey) are added, the number of students from Chinese-speaking countries may approach 50,000.

"No New Ideas, Please, We're the Academics," Daily Yomiuri, 7 May 1988.

Universities are under fire for recruiting professors mostly from their own graduates and then promoting them by seniority. Creativity is not encouraged, and the vital research typical of university communities in other countries is not being accomplished in Japan.

Novick, A. (1988a). "Overseas Returnees: Us Vs Them," Daily Yomiuri, 27 June.

Currently there are about a quarter of a million Japanese living temporarily in foreign countries. Over 10,000 Japanese schoolchildren are now returning annually from abroad to continue their education in their native country. In 1986, 42% of overseas Japanese schoolchildren were in North America, 23 % in Europe, and 23% in Asia. "It is common knowledge that students face the greatest adjustment problems not when they are overseas, but when they return home." Examples of returnee difficulties are cited.

Novick, A. (1988b). "Education in Japan: An Orwellian Nightmare," Daily Yomiuri, 28 August.

Novick reviews Educational Thought and Ideology in Modern Japan by Teruhisa, a Tokyo University professor specializing in educational theory. The relationship between education and authoritarianism is explored.

Novick, A. (1988c). "U.S.-Japan Panel on Education," Daily Yomiuri, 10 October, p. 7.

The director of the U.S. Dept. of Education was among the members of a satellite-linked panel discussion between Tokyo and New York focusing on problems in education between the two countries. Other members on the U.S. side were Bruce Williams, Deputy Director of the New York City Board of Education; Terry Weeks, a middle school science teacher from Tennessee and Teacher of the Year for 1988; Merry White, director of international education studies at Harvard's Graduate School of Education; and Manya Ungar, PTA chairman. The three hour discussion of this panel was later reduced to a 60-minute TV show in the U.S. and a 75-minute version for the Japanese version.

Novick, A. (1988d). "Citizens' Paralysis Syndrome," Daily Yomiuri, 17 October.

Novick comments on teacher-initiated violence in the classroom and cites a number of examples where students have been physically abused. He blames the situation on Japanese parents who refuse to take an active stand in demanding changes within the schools.

Novick, A. (1988e). "How to Save Your Own Life," Daily Yomiuri, 24 October. p. 7.

This report attempts to link authoritarian control in secondary schools to social deviation by students. Deviation in this case suggests suicide, dropping out, and life styles that fail to conform to normal expectations. [While there is no need to doubt the specific examples cited within this article, there seems to be a preponderance of evidence available to the contrary which contradicts Novick's arguments. See, for example, Merry White's The Japanese Educational Challenge.]

Novick, A. (1988f). "Scholars Break New Ground on Teacher Violence," Daily Yomiuri, 31 October 1988, p. 7.

The Research Group on Children's Human Rights and Corporal Punishment which was founded in 1982 consists of about 70 university affiliated researchers, lawyers, doctors, teachers and parents. This group has published four books that examine Japan's status quo in banning corporal punishment. Results of surveys conducted with teachers and with students are included in this report.

Novick, A. (1988g). "Children's Rights Group Fights an Uphill Battle," Daily Yomiuri, 7 November, p. 7.

The Tokorozawa Association for the Protection of Children's Rights, formed in December 1984, is one of the pioneering citizen's groups formed to oppose violence by teachers. The association's membership consists largely of mothers of past or present students in Tokorozawa's Koyo Middle School which gained notoriety in 1985 for a series of incidents involving several teachers in which students were subjected to violence.

Novick, A. (1988h). "New Legal Advocates for Children," Daily Yomiuri, 21 November, p. 7.

In 1978 and 1985 the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (Nichibenren) focused their annual conventions on children's rights. Then in 1987, Nichibenren issued a handbook of procedures for redressing violations of children's rights. This year, the Attorneys for the Defense of Children's Rights has been formed as another step in the network of resistance against above-the-law style child management policies.

Novick, A. (1988i). "Educational Ruin," Daily Yomiuri, 28 November, p. 7.

The author suggests that as long as the schools continue to supply industry with quality human resources, little change can be expected in the system. Because of this, reforms to correct the obnoxious behavior of both students and teachers are not likely to take place.

Nozawa, S. (1988a). "Language Labs Important in ELT," Daily Yomiuri, 28 January.

This interview with Sutesaburo Komoto, president of the Language Laboratory Association of Japan, suggests that technology has an important role in language instruction. Komoto warns that too much stress on communicative competence without teaching grammatical rules can be the cause of "pigin" English.

Nozawa, S. (1988b). "Parents Can Help Students," Daily Yomiuri, 13 October 1988, p. 7.

This is a review of a book by Takeshi Masakiyo titled Oka-san, Boku, Eigo Dai-kirai! (Mother, I Hate English!). Masakiyo is principal of Kobe Municipal Ohashi Middle School, and he believes increased awareness by parents of the character and abilities of their children will improve the language development during English programs at their schools. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their children's learning activities.

Nozawa, S. (1988c). "Current Topics Highlight Contest Speeches," Daily Yomiuri, 10 November, p. 7.

Keio University has won the Fukuzawa Trophy at the 12th Annual All Japan Intercollegiate English Oratorical Contest. Azumi Kuroiwa, the first prize winner, attributed part of his success to the 12 years he has lived abroad in English-speaking countries. The topic of Kuroiwa's speech was "The Temptation" which refers to the current controversy surrounding the Recruit scandal.

Nozawa, S. (1988d). "The World's a Stage--Some Classrooms Too," Daily Yomiuri, 10 November 1988, p. 7.

Akira Onizawa, a Japanese high school teacher of English, is using drama to motivate his students in learning a second language.

Nozawa, S., and Takasuka, S. (1988). "Discussing the Hows and Whys of AETs," Daily Yomiuri, 17 November, p. 7.

This article reports on the proceedings of the 1988 annual conference of the Institute for Research in Language Teaching (IRLT). The focus of this two-day conference was the effective use of Assistant English Teachers in the Japanese school system.

"Number of Complaints Increasing Over Sales Tactics for English Classes," Japan Times, 23 November 1988, p. 3.

The Tokyo metropolitan-run advisory center for consumers has noted an increase in the number of complaints received about contracts with language schools. Since last spring, 47.8 percent of those seeking advice over contracts for English conversation classes said they wanted to cancel their contracts, while 19.8 percent complained of forceful sales tactics.

O

OECD (1987). Universities Under Scrutiny. Paris: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

This report reviews the problems and dilemmas confronting the academic world today. It indicates that if universities are to continue to make a vital contribution to post-industrialized societies, they will have to participate more actively in social and economic development while maintaining their strengths as centers of excellence.

"Official Had Grants to School Restored," Mainichi Daily News, 22 November 1988, p. 12.

Kyushu Industrial University which had official subsidies suspended for a five-year period due to its padding of the number of faculty members, has had that ban lifted prior to its expiration date through the intervention of national legislators in the Diet.

Ohki, E. (1988). "School Revives Imperial Rescript on Education; Document from 1890 Inspires Moral Reformers," Japan Times, 30 November, p. 3.

An edict issued by Emperor Meiji in 1890 urging students to respect the imperial family has been suggested as a way to educate students to be Japanese with a "true Japanese spirit." At the all-male private high school affiliated with Nihon University about 400 students stand in rows and chant the rescript every morning. The role of patriotism in education is further discussed in this article.

Okun, S. (1988). "Keio Univ. to Open High School in New York," Asahi Evening News, 3 February.

Because graduates of regular American high schools have difficulty securing admission to Japanese colleges, Keio University will establish an educational training program in New York in the fall of 1990. This high school will offer students from the 10th through the 12th grades a blend of traditional American and Japanese curricula with emphasis on preparation for the strenuous admission standards at Japanese colleges. The faculty will be both American and Japanese; about 400 students are planned for the first year and 750 within five years. Sixty thousand Japanese live in the metropolitan area of New York City.

Ono, T. (1988a). "Rising Number of Chinese Students Working Here Brings Call for Limits," Japan Times, 19 November, p. 2.

The Foreign and Education ministries have reported that the number of Chinese students who came to Japan to study at Japanese language schools stood at 19,394 in August. Last year, it was 7,178 and in 1986, it was only 2,126. Because of this rapid rise in Chinese students, the Immigration Bureau has slowed down processing visa applications.

Ono, T. (1988b). "Multilanguage Tool Seen to Have Great Potential," Japan Times, 27 November, p. 2.

Akira Uehara, director of research and development at the Center of International Cooperation for Computerization, has been promoting an automatic multilanguage translation system. This computer system uses an common interlanguage to translate sentences from one language to another. To date, the machine can translate only about 30 of 6,000 sample sentences.

"Open English Speech Festival: Broadening Horizons," Daily Yomiuri, 24 November 1988, p. 7.

Yoshiko Miyajima, a 44-year-old housewife, won first prize in the Second Japan Open English Speech Festival held in Saga. Her winning speech is reprinted in this article.

"Osaka Branch of U.S. School Set," Japan Times, 11 December 1988, p. 2.

The United States International University based in San Diego will open a branch in Kishiwada Cosmopolis, a futuristic community that will be built near the planned Kansai International Airport.

"Osaka Commerce Chamber Will Survey Alumni Abroad," Japan Times, 25 November 1988, p. 2.

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) will send a mission to Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia to poll foreign alumni of universities in the Kanto region to learn of any problems they had in Japan as well as their current working conditions.

"Oxford College to Open in Kobe," Daily Yomiuri, 6 October 1988, p. 2.

Oxford University's St. Catherine's College is planning to open a branch school in Kobe to offer a master course program for graduates in Japan. The British university is the first European college to announce such a plan in Japan and the program will be the first that Oxford will offer overseas. According to the plan, students will undertake one year's study at the Japanese branch and then move to Britain to study at Oxford for two years. About 50 to 60 students are expected to take courses such as English literature, political science, and natural science. Two professors and about five researchers will be sent from Britain for the Japanese branch.

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"Panel Recommends Tough Standards for Japanese Language Institutions," Japan Times, 24 December 1988, p. 2.

According to Cultural Agency figures, there were 255 Japanese language schools as of November, 1987, with about 35,000 foreign students enrolled. This represents a threefold increase over the level 10 years ago. Recommendations have been made to strengthen the standards for Japanese language schools. For instance, these school must have at least two full-time instructors on the payroll and offer courses at least one year long which include more than 760 hours of instruction. Classes must have fewer than 40 students each.

"Panel to Reform Senior High Educational System Planned," Asahi Evening News, 26 April 1988.

In order to make the senior high school education system more flexible, the Education Ministry has established a panel of about 20 scholars and other experts. "The current senior high school education system is being criticized as fraught with problems with more than 100,000 students quitting midway each year."

"Parents Still Worry about Their Kids at University," Mainichi Daily, 27 October 1987, p. 12.

PTA organizations are active at the university level in Japan. Universities view the PTAs as useful in counseling families so that the feelings of the student can be fairly considered. Japanese families have grown smaller, and parents are often over-zealous in controlling the future of their offspring.

"Paying for Higher Education," The Japan Times, 23 October 1988, p. 16.

This editorial comments on a report issued by the Education Ministry which documents a significant decrease over recent years in government subsidies to private institutions. The writer believes that greater attention must be given to colleges and universities which are not a part of the national system.

Perkins, L. (1988). "Training Abroad Not Really Best," Daily Yomiuri, 2 June.

Improved systematic teacher training in Japan would be as efficient in bringing change to the system as sending teachers abroad. "Merely improving teachers' speaking ability and cultural understanding, without correcting major defects in the school system, is about as effective as putting a band-aid on a broken arm."

"Petition Calls for Sexual Equality in Admission to Tokyo High Schools," Japan Times, 3 November 1988, p. 2.

A citizens' group has urged the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly to admit equal numbers of male and female students to city-run senior high schools. The schools currently accept about 10 per cent more boys than girls.

"Police Say Man Used Stand-in to Pass His Architect's Exam," Japan Times, 16 November 1988, p. 2.

Two men have been questioned by the Metropolitan Police Department on suspicion of conspiring to cheat in a state licensing examination last year.

"Principals Play Hooky from Meeting," Japan Times, 24 November 1988, p. 3.

When the principals of 33 municipal junior high schools met in mid-October for a national convention, nine skipped most of the scheduled meetings to take a sightseeing trip. The nine received nearly ¥60,000 each as a travel allowance for the official trip.

"Problem Pupils," Japan Times, 7 December 1988, p. 20.

An Education Ministry survey on students with problematic behavior revealed that the number refusing to go to school has reached a record high, both at elementary and junior high schools. Teachers said laziness was the number one problem while the majority of parents who were consulted cited emotional disorders as the central cause.

"Proposal Made to Cut Graduate Study Period," Mainichi Daily News, 13 July 1988.

The Education Ministry has been asked to consider a proposal which would enable students to acquire a doctoral degree by the age of 24. Thus, after three years of work as an undergraduate, students could enter graduate school. Master's degree programs, which now require two years of study, would be shortened to a minimum of one year; doctoral programs, which presently require three years of study, would be shortened to two years. In 1987, there were 78,914 students enrolled in graduate schools--five times the number of students in 1950.

"Public High School to Admit Foreign Students," Asahi Evening News, 10 September 1988.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Kokusai High School will begin to accept applications from foreign residents in Tokyo and from Japanese students who received schooling abroad as well as from graduates of ordinary Japanese junior high schools. According to the Office of Education, different screening methods will be applied to applicants in accordance with their previous education backgrounds.

"Punishing School Grind," Japan Times, 2 October 1988, p. 18.

This brief article describes the point system some schools use to maintain student discipline. Because students cannot graduate without a set number of points and because points are subtracted from a student's file if some infraction occurs, strict compliance to the rules is obligatory.

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Read, R. (1988). "School Rescues U.S. College," Daily Yomiuri, 27 October, p. 7.

Tsuneo Kusunoki, president of Amvic International Co., expects to gain 49 percent ownership of Warner Pacific College in Portland, Oregon. He views this acquisition as good for sales promotion because Warner Pacific is an accredited U.S. college. Sources in Japan say this joint venture could spark a series of similar partnerships in the near future.

"Record Numbers Hope to Get Higher Education," Daily Yomiuri, 20 August 1988.

This spring 47.9% of Japanese high school graduates said that they wished to go on to universities, colleges or junior colleges. A record number of 366,000 students failed to gain entrance to various institutions of higher learning. Students entering technical schools increased to 208,000 which accounted for 12.6% of high school graduates. This choice of postsecondary education reflected the increasing difficulty of entering universities and a growing tendency to seek practical training. It is interesting to note that 5,000 who did not graduate from a high school were still able to enter university programs because they passed the government's college entrance qualification test.

"Regulation Eased, School Outings Overseas to Rise," Daily Yomiuri, 20 January 1988.

The Education Ministry took steps to adjust a 1968 ruling that school excursions should be limited to "austere ones" and not simply sightseeing trips. With the strong yen, 40,547 students from 140 high schools traveled abroad in 1987. South Korea topped the list of countries visited by these students.

Rifat, C. (1988a). "A Colonial Remnant: English," Japan Times, 23 November 1988, p. 18.

This letter to the editor argues that English is not a politically, economically or philosophically neutral language. Its use as an international language has strong overtones of colonialism.

Rifat, C. (1988b). "When English Is a Colonial Remnant," Mainichi Daily News, 8 December, p. 2.

While this writer correctly states that language is a strong artifact of culture and that the values of one culture spread to another as a language is introduced to new areas of the world, his argument that this process is dangerous is not well supported.

Ruthenberg, D. (1988). "American Universities League President Replies," Japan Times, 17 August.

Mr. Ruthenberg offers a defense of the AUL campus dispute which erupted in Yokohama when students found that their AUL diplomas would not be accepted for credits at U.S. universities.

Sakakibara, J. (1988). "The Paper Elite," Tokyo Journal, 8(7), October, pp. 4-9, 26-27.

Ms. Sakakibara, a veteran journalist who has worked for a publication of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attacks the elitism that exists in the Japanese system of higher education and calls for reforms. Because of the hierarchy that exists within university circles, discrimination occurs when graduates move into their roles as professionals in the community.

Sakuma, H.(1988). "Poverty Blocking Refugees' Education," Japan Times, 17 December, p. 3.

Indochinese refugees in Japan have difficulties receiving higher education because of the language barrier and even more because of a lack of financial resources. According to the Justice Ministry an estimated 977 Kampucheans have settled in Japan, but only six of these have entered Japanese universities. There are approximately 4,026 Vietnamese refugees in Japan, but according to the Vietnamese Association of Japan, only about 20 have entered Japanese universities.

Sato, H. (1987) "On Japanese Schooling," Mainichi Daily News, 19 October.

This is a review of The Japanese Educational Challenge by M. White. [Citation listed below.] The book is a descriptive study of the way education is carried out in Japan from a child's birth to high school.

Sawa, T. (1988). "Management in Higher Ed," Japan Times, 18 April.

The merits of admitting non-Japanese to positions of power within the academic community are explored here. Two fundamental practices within the Japanese university hierarchy are keeping high-caliber foreign academics on the outside. The first is a restrictive recruitment policy; foreign professors not bred within the Japanese intellectual tradition are considered a threat to peace and harmony. Innovative ideas are often considered heresy and condemned as irrational suggestions. The second is the rigid Japanese system of promotion by seniority. Young men, however brilliant and whatever their intellectual contribution, must wait their turn for promotion.

"School Designs Behind the Times," Mainichi Daily, 24 March 1988.

A report on the design of schools was submitted to the Education Ministry recommending that architectural forms in Japanese schools should reflect greater sensitivity to human nature. "Stressing that schools are not just places for 'education,' the report called for a more expansive viewpoint of the school environment, one which takes into account the individualistic, play and information-oriented aspects of learning."

"School English-Teaching Program Faltering: Union," Mainichi Daily, 27 October 1988, p. 14.

Problems attending the Assistant English Teacher (AET) program were aired during a conference of Japanese teachers in Sapporo. For example, a student survey indicated that while the AET program addressed conversational skills, it did little to help prepare for entrance examinations into higher educational institutions. [This reaction may, however, be of minor consequence since this opinion represented only 28% of the population surveyed.]

"School Isn't Easy after Living Abroad," Japan Times, 2 October 1988, p. 2.

"Kikokushijo" is the term for Japanese children who have returned from abroad to study in this nation's schools. According to government statistics, approximately 41,000 Japanese elementary and junior high pupils were living outside Japan as of May last year, compared with 16,000 in 1975. Moreover, about 11,000 elementary, junior and senior high school students returned from abroad during fiscal 1985 (which ended in March 1987).

"School Ordered to Repay Tuition," Daily Yomiuri, 6 November 1988, p. 2.

A private Japanese school collected fees totaling ¥27.5 million from 400 Chinese applicants. However, the school was unable to obtain a license, and the Justice Ministry denied visas to the Chinese who had paid tuition. Three officials of the Japanese school who were in Shanghai to explain about the dispute have been detained and their passports confiscated pending settlement of the trouble.

"Schools, Old People's Home, to be Combined," Daily Yomiuri, 9 November 1988, p. 2.

A multiple-function public building in Tokyo will house a junior high school, a nursery school, and a special home for the aged. This architectural design is considered an effective way to utilize scarce inner-city land.

Sharp, T. (1988). "Secondary School for Japanese Children to Open in Tennessee," Asahi Evening News, 10 August.

An accredited Japanese secondary school will open in Knoxville to make it possible for Japanese children to get the education necessary for admittance to Japanese universities without having to stay in Japan.

Shimizu, T. (1988a). "Overseas Study Motivates Students," Daily Yomiuri, 28 April.

This report by an associate professor at Mukogawa Women's University primarily discusses the positive effects three-weeks of intensive English had on 58 first-year college students. He concludes with the statement: "Japan's university English education lags far behind in serving any practical purpose, and now is the time to take measures to bring Japanese academics up to the international level."

Shimizu, T. (1988b). "'Living America Program' Gives Students Extra Motivation," Daily Yomiuri, 3 November, 9. 7.

The motivation young people have depends on the value of their experiences. Mukogawa Women's University in Nishinomiya gave its students a valuable experience by sending them to an affiliated school in the U.S. for the "Living America Program." [Article replicates one that appeared 28 April in Daily Yomiuri.]

Shimizu, T. (1988c). "MWU Students Visit U.S.," Daily Yomiuri, 10 November 1988, p. 7.

Shimizu continues his discussion of some of the language learning experiences his students had in the U.S. through the "Living American Program."

Shishin, A. (1988). "Non-Traditional College Degrees," The Language Teacher, 12(3), March, pp. 35, 38.

The author discusses degree programs from non-traditional universities and colleges. The argument here is that the field of higher education is not often well represented by traditional degree programs; therefore, those interested in obtaining a degree should feel free to explore alternative academic sources, including schools lacking accreditation.

Singleton, S. (1988). Asahi Evening News, 24 November, p. 7.

An AET from the United States defends the Assistant English Teacher Program.

"Sister-School of Tokai Univ. in Denmark," Mainichi Daily News, 29 November 1987.

An affiliation between Tokai University and a junior and senior high school in Praesto City, Denmark, will begin in 1988. These schools are intended primarily for Japanese children living abroad. Other schools of this type can be found in London, France, and New York. A survey by the Education Ministry shows that there are 41,000 junior high school students and primary school pupils living abroad. In addition, there are several thousand senior high school students who fall into this category. Upon returning to Japan, the number of schools of higher grade which they can enter is limited.

Skrzycki, C. (1987). "It's Back to School for an M.B.A.: Japanese Executives Flock to U.S.," Japan Times, 11 July.

More Japanese students are seeking M.B.A.s because the price of sponsorship for a company has declined with the change in the dollar-yen relationship. This change has also made it possible for the first time for individuals to pay their own way. Two graphs appear. One shows the number of foreign students by region of origin from 1955 until 1986. The other shows their chosen fields of study.

Sklar, D. (1988). "Cosmo Helps Students Get Back on Track through a Real Life Approach to Learning," Japan Times, 22 November, p. 4.

Cosmo, a non-traditional school in Nagoya, has given junior and senior high school dropouts an opportunity to study a wide variety of subjects in a free and encouraging environment.

"Some Chinese Students Turning to Prostitution," Mainichi Daily News, 7 December 1988, p. 12.

A report in a Chinese newspaper describes life as a student in Japan as one of trouble and misery. This article is an attempt by China to discourage a large number of self-financed students, especially in Shanghai, from applying to go abroad to study.

"Standardized Testing: A Report Card," This World, 13 April 1986, p. 18.

This interview between Jonathan Friendly, a New York Times reporter, and Gregory Anrig, the president of the Educational Testing Service, covers a number of salient issues concerning standardized tests. Anrig argues that test scores should not be absolute measures of a student's ability. He also indicates that ETS is undergoing a philosophical shift away from judging student competence and toward predictions about how people learn.

"Stanford, N.Korea Reach Pact on Scholarly Exchange," Japan Times, 3 November 1988, p. 4.

The International Strategic Institute at Stanford University and the Korean Academy of Social Sciences of North Korea have reached an agreement for scholarly exchange. Scholars from both institutions will meet regularly at about 6-month intervals.

"Students Claim Fraud Against College Over Promised Degrees from U.S.," Japan Times, 23 July 1988.

The American Universities League Japan Campus in Yokohama has come under attack by students and their parents because of a dispute over the degree received upon graduating. Students claim the college misled them into believing they could receive degrees from U.S. schools that would be equal to those granted by Japanese two-year colleges.

"Subsidies Falling Short of Spending by Private Schools, Report Shows," Japan Times, 2 October 1988, p. 2.

The Education Ministry and the Japan Private University Promotion Foundation reported that their subsidies to private and technical colleges rose only 0.2 percent in 1987--far below the increase in the school's expenditures. The subsidy rate is expected to decline further because of the private schools' growing expenditures.

"Survey: College Kids Say They're Healthy," Daily Yomiuri, 7 November 1988, p. 12.

While a large majority of today's students consider themselves healthy and watch their diet, many say that they get tired easily, according to a survey by the nation's university cooperative union.

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Takasuka, S. (1987). "UNR, SIU Set Up Branch Schools in Japan," Daily Yomiuri, 24 December, p. 6.

An influx of U.S. universities and colleges to Japan is still continuing. The University of Nevada-Reno and Southern Illinois University have recently followed the lead of Columbia University, Temple University, John F. Kennedy University and United States International University in setting up campuses here. It is further reported that the Fletcher School of Law which is administered jointly by Tufts and Harvard Universities will offer seminars in Hokkaido.

Takasuka, S. (1988a). "Americans Find English University Test Easy," Daily Yomiuri, 18 February.

Three American journalists participated in an experiment to judge the difficulty of the standardized English examination administered to university applicants. Although they were given 100 minutes to finish the test--as were the actual examinees--the three native speakers answered all 68 questions in just 20 to 50 minutes. They also scored high marks--200, 198 and 188 out of a maximum of 200 points.

Takasuka, S. (1988b). "New Intl Colleges Welcome Freshmen," Daily Yomiuri, 28 April.

Three new international colleges have begun operations in Japan. Canadian International College, a two-year college based in Nelson, British Columbia, has enrolled 279 students ranging in age from 18 to 42. United States International University, headquartered in San Diego and with branches in London, Mexico City, Nairobi, Vienna and Wiesbaden, opened in Tokyo with a student population of 61. The University of Nevada-Reno has accepted 162 freshmen into its International Division in Japan; 126 are pursing bachelor's or associate degrees and the others are enrolled in a two-year professional training program or in an intensive English program.

Takasuka, S. (1988c). "Niigata Town Welcomes U.S. Univ. Branch," Daily Yomiuri, 16 June.

Nakajomachi, a small town in Niigata, has become the home of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, in consortium with the Mid-American State Universities Association. About 450 students are enrolled in its intensive English program. After three years of training in Japan, students go to the main SIU campus in Carbondale.

Takasuka, S. (1988d). "New School Looking Toward 21st Century," Daily Yomiuri, 23 June, p. 7.

The YMCA International High School in Osaka is a new type of high school designed for foreign students, Japanese returnees from overseas, and Japanese middle school graduates. Because it is a special school, it has greater freedom in planning its curriculum than high schools regulated by the Education Ministry. The Osaka YMCA has designed its 4-year program in accordance with standards set by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. If that association approves the YMCA curriculum, its diplomas will be recognized as equal to those issued by high schools in North America.

Takasuka, S. (1988e). "Osaka Temple U. Offers Master's Program," Daily Yomiuri, 30 June.

Temple University is offering a master's degree in TESOL at its Osaka campus as well as in Tokyo. Sixty percent of the students in this program are foreigners, mainly Americans. Scholars who are experts in the discipline are regularly scheduled to lecture.

Takasuka, S. (1988f). "U.S. Teachers Tour Japanese School," Daily Yomiuri, 7 July.

Thirty U.S. teachers visited Japan under the 14th "U.S. Educators in Japan" program organized by the Japan External Trade Organization and Japanese corporations. One of these teachers stated: "There are more similarities between Japanese and American students than differences." The school she was visiting was Oizumi Middle School, a Tokyo school renowned for educating Japanese children who have returned after living abroad for several years.

Takasuka, S. (1988g). "UNR-Japan Campus Part of Intl Effort," Daily Yomiuri, 29 September, p. 5.

Joseph Crowley, president of the University of Nevada-Reno, during a recent visit to Japan affirmed the quality of his institution in response to recent criticism of some U.S. universities which have set up branches in this country. This criticism has focused on low educational quality and commercial emphasis. UNR now has about 160 students in its non-degree program here in Japan. Crowley said, "They are students of an American program that happens to be located in Japan."

Takasuka, S. (1988h). "Asia U. Looks to Future," Daily Yomiuri, 20 October 1988, p. 11.

Because the university-age population in Japan is expected to decline after 1993, Asia University in Tokyo has decided to change its strategies. One new strategy involves an overseas study program at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington. Another strategy has been to advertise in popular magazines for applicants. "Some may question the ethics of a university advertising for students, but since the university age population will drop to 1.33 million in 2005, it is clear that some schools will have to close their doors. Whether they like Eto's [the president of Asia University] style or not, officials of many universities will soon[er] or later need to find ways to survive if their schools do not have prestige, famous professors, unique curricula or successful side businesses."

Takasuka S. (1988i). "New Book Advocates Just 'Plain English,'" Daily Yomiuri, 3 November, p. 7.

This review of Kelly Itoh's Wakaru Eigo, Tsuiiru Eigo (Introduction to Plain English) suggests that a Japanese should try to master usage of simple words to make himself understood clearly to native English speakers rather than memorizing big words and complicated phrases.

Takasuka S. (1988j). "U.K. Grammarian: Intl English 'Dangerous,'" Daily Yomiuri, 3 November, p. 7.

Sir Randoph Quirk, president of the British Academy and an English grammarian, stated that the concept of "international" English is a mistaken and very dangerous way of looking at a variety of languages. His argument rests on the belief that native varieties of a language (e.g., American English or British English) are stable while non-native varieties (e.g., Indian English or Philippine English) are inherently unstable. He concludes by observing that Japan's entrance examination destroys student motivation to learn English as a communication device. The skills required in studying English to pass the entrance exams are not the ones needed for actually communicating in English.

"Talented Students," Asahi Evening News, 22 July 1988.

This editorial comments on the report that the University of Tokyo (Todai) will admit students who are talented in certain areas. This change in policy is meant to answer critics who say that the present entrance examination system will not produce people who are creative. Under Todai's exam reform plan, about 90% of the freshmen will be admitted through the first test given on four regular subjects--Japanese language, history, mathematics, and English. The remaining 10% will be left for the applicants who take the second examination. Not all are pleased with Todai's effort saying that the talented student category should not be confined to the tiny 10 percent quota.

Tashiro, H. (1988). "Daiken Opens Doors to Dropouts," Japan Times, 31 July.

The Daiken Examination, the University Entrance Qualification Examination which was begun in 1951 and is given by the Education Ministry once a year, offers an alternate way to gain admission to a Japanese university. Those who are ineligible to take the usual university entrance examinations because they were unable to finish senior high school have this second chance to demonstrate their scholastic abilities. The fact that the majority of the candidates for this exam are high school dropouts and that the number of those applying for the test has steadily increased offers proof that the needs of a large segment of Japanese society are not being met by the current secondary school system.

"Teacher Arrested on Suspicion of Stealing Bag," Daily Yomiuri, 17 October 1988.

The significance of this report is the fact that a theft that occurred far removed from any school property still reflected on the community of educators because the thief was a teacher.

"Teacher's Bible Lessons Irk Parents," Mainichi Daily News, 23 November 1988, p. 12.

A teacher who belongs to the Jehovah's Witnesses Christian sect has created a controversy by introducing religious topics into elementary classes.

"Teacher's Workshop Ends 8-Day Session," Daily Yomiuri, 27 October 1988, p. 2.

An 8-day workshop sponsored by the Japan Teachers' Union was held in Sapporo. During this meeting "many teachers lauded the native speaker program, saying it has excited the students about English."

"Teikyo University Donation to Foundation Under Review," Japan Times, 10 November 1988, p. 2.

An ¥800 million donation by Teikyo University to fund a private foundation set up by a former education vice minister who is implicated in political corruption is being investigated by the Education Ministry. The question to be answered is: How could Teikyo University, a private college which received ¥2.5 billion in state subsidies in 1987, afford to make such a sizable contribution.

Teruhisa, H. (1988). Educational Thought and Ideology in Modern Japan, trans. by S. Platzer. Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press.

Although Japanese schools are widely admired abroad for their success in instilling high levels of literacy, the author of this book takes a hard look at the Japanese system and finds it not entirely satisfactory. In human terms, the schools in Japan are cutthroat. Furthermore, conflicts over textbook censorship by the government regularly insulates students from the realities of the world.

"Textbook Council Proposes to Simplify its Review Process," Japan Times, 23 September 1988, p. 2.

Currently an expert examiner of the Education Ministry negotiates changes point-by-point with the author and the publisher, but the Textbook Authorization Research Council has recommended that this stage be eliminated. Furthermore, it has been suggested that the present 3-year term for textbook authorization be extended to 4 years or more. A complete list of recommendations is contained in this article.

"Thousands Apply for College Exam," Daily Yomiuri, 25 October 1988, p. 2.

From October 24 until November 4, students may apply for the preliminary standard college entrance examination to be held January 21 and 22. In Tokyo on the first day for applying in 1988, 43,528 applications were taken. This was 647 fewer than on the same day last year.

"Timely Grant for U.S. Researchers," Japan Times, 19 July 1988.

The Japanese government has contributed $4.8 million to the National Science Foundation in the United States to underwrite long visits by as many as 75 to 100 American researchers to government, academic and industrial laboratories in Japan.

"Todai Students' Cost of Living ¥100,000/Month," Mainichi Daily News, 22 November 1988, p. 12.

A recent survey of student expenses at Tokyo University reveals that the greatest single item of expense for students living away from home was housing. These students spend an average of ¥100,000 per month on living expenses.

"Tokyo American College Now Open to Enrolment [sic]," Asahi Evening News, 31 August 1988.

Los Angeles City College will offer an associate degree program through the Tokyo American College in Yoyogi. This 2-year program enables students to transfer credits into U.S. universities.

"Tokyo to Expand Exchange Program," Daily Yomiuri, 13 November 1988, p. 2.

The Tokyo metropolitan government will start a one-year exchange program for high school students with its five sister cities in fiscal 1989. The exchange program will concentrate on bringing foreign students to Japan, with 133 students invited to stay at Tokyo homes and attend Tokyo schools by 1991. Fifty-five Tokyo high school students will go overseas for year-long stays, mostly to English-speaking sister cities. The five cities involved are New York, Beijing, Paris, Seoul, and the Australian state of New South Wales.

Tomioka, M. (1988). "Tough Questions for Little Children," Daily Yomiuri, 23 November, p. 2.

A mother complains about the entrance examination required for children to enter a neighborhood juku.

"Tonegawa Raps Japan's Univ. Research System," Daily Yomiuri, 11 March 1988.

Susumu Tonegawa who won the Nobel Prize for medicine strongly criticized the research environment in Japan. He believes that it is impossible to expect young researchers in Japan to come up with original and creative ideas unless regulations granting independent research to university assistants are implemented. The Education Ministry's allocation of research funds to a few oligarchic figures in the academic world creates factionalism and inhibits original research.

"Training Students and Employees by Satellite," Asahi Evening News, 2 December 1987, p. 6.

A growing number of Japanese companies are using communication satellites to broadcast training programs to their offices in cities throughout the country.

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"UC Berkeley's Tokyo Office to Promote Alumni Activities," Japan Times, 30 November 1988, p. 2.

University of California at Berkeley has opened a liaison office in Tokyo to promote the university in the Pacific Rim.

Uchiyama, Y. (1987). "Untapped Resources: Japanese Kids Returning from Abroad," Asahi Evening News, 16 December, p. 6.

The author suggests that biculturalism and bilingualism represent liabilities rather than assets in Japanese society. Returning students to Japan feel that they do not "fit in," that their Japanese is inferior, and that their teachers do not understand the types of problems they are facing in adapting to a new culture/society. One perceptive Japanese teacher states, "The problems of returnee children probably represent the problems of the whole of Japanese education in the most direct way."

"U.N. University Researches Global Problems," Japan Times, 18 December 1988, p. 2.

U.N. University which was established in Shibuya in 1975 has conducted various research activities. The university currently has nine programs under five main themes: world peace, world economy, hunger and poverty, human and social development, and science and technology.

"Unique Teaching Methods Displayed," Daily Yomiuri, 26 October 1988, p. 2.

At a workshop in Sapporo which was sponsored by the Japan Teachers Union, middle school teachers shared ideas of ways to stimulate student achievement. Examples included in this article are ways to encourage better performance in physical education, math, and English classes.

"University Did Not Sanction Experiments," Asahi Evening, 14 November 1988, p. 3.

A group of Tokai University medical researchers have come under attack for conducting in vitro fertilization experiments using human eggs and sperm without permission of the school's ethics committee.

"University Gave Land Funds to Foundation," Daily Yomiuri, 27 November 1988, p. 2.

Teikyo University has been linked to a large real estate transaction which enabled it to make an ¥800 million donation to a private foundation. Education Ministry officials have expressed annoyance with Teikyo University's donation because the university itself receives ¥2.4 billion in subsidies from the government. An investigation is now underway to determine whether the government subsidy is really needed.

"University of the Air Plans to Telecast Japanese Courses," Japan Times, 24 November 1988, p. 11.

The University of the Air will broadcast two Japanese language courses--elementary and intermediate--for foreign residents in the Kanto area starting April 1.

"University Signs Affiliation Pact," Japan Times, 12 November 1988, p. 2.

Soai University in Osaka has formed an affiliation with Akademia Muzyoizna im Fryderyka Chopina, a conservatory in Warsaw.

"University Sparks Mexican Program," Daily Yomiuri, 24 November 1988, p. 2.

A desert agriculture development program in Mexico by Tottori University has encouraged the Mexican government to start a similar project of its own.

"University Students Must Join National Pension," Asahi Evening News, 26 November 1988, p. 3.

The Health and Welfare Ministry has decided to make it mandatory for students over the age of 20 to join the national pension system, beginning in fiscal 1990. Students over 20 would be required to pay the same premium as other subscribers to the national pension system. The monthly premium for fiscal 1988 is ¥7,700 (approximately $60).

"Universities Establish New Facilities," Mainichi Daily News, 29 November 1987.

The title of this article does not accurately explain the contents. Included here are revised entrance requirements--particularly those for foreign applicants and for Japanese who have resided overseas--for Waseda University, Keio University, and Dokkyo University.

"U.S.-Affiliated School Misled Us: Students," Mainichi Daily News, 23 July 1988.

The American Universities League Japan Campus in Yokohama has come under attack by students and their parents because of a dispute over the degree received upon graduating. Students claim the college misled them into believing they could receive degrees from U.S. schools that would be equal to those granted by Japanese two-year colleges.

"U.S. College Degree Dispute Goes to Court," Daily Yomiuri, 4 September 1988.

Three students at the Japan campus of the American Universities League (AUL) and their parents went to court to seek a refund of admission fees paid to the school, which they claim deceived the students.

"U.S. High School to Open in Tokyo," Asahi Evening News, 20 July 1988.

The Interpacific High School Japan, a senior high school division of San Diego-based United States International University (USIU) will start classes on 12 September. USIU which has campuses in seven countries, will offer its Japanese students an opportunity to study in three of these--Japan in the first year, Britain in the second year and the United States in the third year. When students complete the three-year curriculum, they will receive a U.S. high school diploma. The article points out that if students wish to go on to Japanese universities, problems arise because USIU is not legally authorized as a senior high school in Japan.

"U.S. R&D Said Heavily Dependent on Govt," Daily Yomiuri, 19 November 1988, p. 4.

Government funding accounts for only a tiny portion of Japan's total research and development, compared to one-third of industrial R&D in the United States

"U.S. Scientists to Get Japanese Training Gratis" Asahi Evening News, 4 August 1988.

The National Science Foundation has begun a Japanese-language program for government-sponsored science researchers and engineers.

"Usury Charges Leveled at Students' Benefactor," Japan Times, 23 November 1988, p. 3.

A man in Osaka who has been giving financial assistance to students from Southeast Asia has been charged with violating a law regulating interest rates for loans. The man claims the money earned from his money-lending business was used to help foreign students who could not otherwise attend school.

V

"Vandal Professor May Lose Job," Daily Yomiuri, 2 November 1988, p. 2.

A professor of the Production Engineering Dept. of Nihon University who purposely scratched a parked car with a ¥10 may be dismissed from his post.

"Vocational Students Protest Against Board," Japan Times, 28 December 1988, p. 2.

Students at Komuin Business Senmon Gakko have lodged a protest over cuts in class hours and larger-than-advertised admittance figures. The school cut classes from four hours a day to two, citing difficulties in offering longer classes because of a loss of full-time teachers.

W

Wakabayashi, S. (1988). "JET, Not Ineffective, Needs to Change," Daily Yomiuri, 27 October, p. 7.

This article written by a professor at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies is a response to a letter from Mark Huxtable, which was printed in the Sept. 15 issue of The Daily Yomiuri. In his letter, Huxtable, a participant in the 1988 Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program, took issue with Wakabayashi's position that the program is nothing more than a political ploy to appease nations with which Japan has trade surpluses. In this reply Wakabayashi points to specific weaknesses in the JET program and gives suggestions how these might be corrected.

"Waseda Dept. Adopts New Admissions Plan," Daily Yomiuri, 17 September 1988.

The School of Social Science at Waseda University has initiated a new admissions policy which stresses student performance in non-academic fields. Students who have a grade-point average higher than 4.5 (on a scale of 5) and who have been absent from school less than 45 days over the past three years can cite proficiency in certain extra-curricular fields when applying for admission. Among these extracurricular fields are English, the abacus, bookkeeping, calligraphy, go, traditional dancing, mahjong and singing.

White, M. (1987). The Japanese Educational Challenge: A Commitment to Children. New York: Free Press.

This book treats psychocultural, historical and social conceptions that create the environment in which Japanese children experience life. It is divided into three parts. Part I shows Japan to be a society committed to children and to education. Part II examines learning at home and at school. Finally, Part III looks at needs and goals in education in the West and Japan, and, in the current climate of educational reform analyzes the problems of transferring practices from one society to another.

"'White Paper' Examines Private Higher Education," Asahi Evening News, 2 December 1987. p. 6.

The Japan Association of Private Colleges and Universities has published a comprehensive review of higher education in Japan. Ninety-six of Japan's more than 300 private colleges and universities belong to this organization. The "white paper" specifically calls for more financial support from the state.

White, R. (1988). "Japan, U.S. Training Differ," Daily Yomiuri, 5 March.

An American baseball player complains about the Japanese tendency to overtrain.

Wiig, L. (1988). "Teaching in Pachinko-less Xian," Mainichi Daily News, 30 December, p. 9.

Jennie Simpson spent two years in China with a group called Volunteers in Asia. Simpson reflects on the time she taught in Xian which included pleasurable moments as well as depressing difficulties.

Williams, J. (1988). "Competition Way to English Fluency?" Daily Yomiuri, 3 November. p. 7.

The author of this letter to the editor suggests that an effort to be the best Asian speakers of English may be an effective way to improve English fluency in Japan. The national pride of Japan could be used as a prod to stimulate more appropriate learning behaviors.

X

Y

Yagura, H. (1987). "English Education from 'Input' to 'Output,'" Mainichi Daily News, 29 November.

Yagura notes that the average Japanese TOEFL score is much lower than many other nations and suggests the reason rests on an educational system which overemphasizes translation and fails to promote training in communication. Changes in traditional curriculum design are long overdue. Some universities which have initiated programs that are more sensitive to national needs are International Christian University, Sophia University, Tsukuba University, Osaka University, Tokyo University, and Nagoya University. The article concludes with some suggestions for changing English examinations so that these tests more effective assess students' linguistic competence.

Yamaguchi, H. (1988). "There's More to Perfect English," Japan Times, 3 October, p. 7.

The author argues that it is content and not form that makes the difference in communication. Insight into the way other people are thinking is more important than the sound distinction of l and r.

Yanagisawa, S. (1988). "Odd Coincidence in Endowment," Daily Yomiuri, 16 November, p. 2.

This letter to the editor complains that Teikyo University, a private institution which receives financial support from the national government, improperly used these funds to establish a special foundation to promote life-long learning.

"Youths Committed 48% of Crimes This Year," Mainichi Daily News, 26 December 1988, p. 12.

Juveniles were responsible for almost one out of every two crimes committed in Japan in 1988, according to a report on juvenile delinquency by the National Police Agency. Incidents of campus violence numbered 734 between January and October. There were 435 cases of violence against teachers.

Z

NUMBERS

"705 High Schools to Offer Open Classes from 1988," Asahi Evening News, 3 September 1987.

The Education Ministry is attempting to promote "lifetime learning" by opening classes in the senior high schools to the general public. These classes cover a wide range of topics from English conversation and calligraphy to music and aerobics. At vocational high schools people can learn bookkeeping, agriculture, and other practical skills. "Universities have offered open classes for many years, but the contents are quite difficult. Senior high school teachers, however, are better able than university professors to teach 'understandable classes.' Furthermore, senior high schools are located much closer to home than universities and can be found throughout the nation."

"80% of Tokyo Children Own Video Games, Survey Shows," Japan Times, 11 November 1988, p. 3.

A recent survey by the Tokyo metropolitan government of 5,108 elementary school pupils and junior and senior high school students, as well as 573 mothers of elementary school pupils, shows that 80% of the respondents own at least a few video games, with only about 1% having no contact at all with either the hardware or software. The survey also shows that children play with video games less frequently as they grow older.

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